Allf 3 0 2004 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

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August 26, 2004 Date of Deposit

Gustavo Siller, Jr., Reg. No. 32,305

Name of Applicant, Assignee or

Registered Representative

Signature

Our Case No. 9281-3996 Client Reference No. N US00078

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Naoya Hasegawa et al.

Serial No. 09/901,438

Filing Date: July 9, 2001

For: EXCHANGE COUPLING FILM AND MAGNETORESISTIVE ELEMENT USING THE SAME

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## **STATUS INQUIRY**

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant filed the above-identified application on July 9, 2001, but has not yet received a first Office Action. Please advise the undersigned attorney as to when a first Office Action is expected to issue on this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Gustavo Siller, Jr.
Registration No. 32,305
Attorney for Applicant

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE P.O. BOX 10395 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610 (312) 321-4200 TO 2000 COD STATUS MODERY REQUIRED

OCT 4 2004

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